



# CROW CREEK SIOUX TRIBE

FORT THOMPSON, SOUTH DAKOTA 57339

November 8, 2010

**VIA ECFS**

Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12 Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange  
Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

My name is Peter Lengkeek. I am a Tribal Council Member for the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe in Fort Thompson, SD. On October 14, 2010 I was called to testify at a hearing in Sioux Falls, SD because Sprint Communications filed a lawsuit against Native American Telecom-Crow Creek, our tribally owned telephone company.<sup>1</sup> Sprint Communications refuses to pay us for service because they say that we are involved in an illegal scheme, but it is not true. I was called to talk about the telephone company and its business. Because of this telephone company, my tribe is experiencing economic activity generated by our own company on our land for the first time in 145 years. New jobs have been created and everyone now has access to the Internet and telephone. I don't know if you are aware of it or not, but the Crow Creek Indian Reservation is one of the most poverty stricken places in the United States.

As a Tribal Council Member representing thousands of tribal members throughout my reservation, I am upset at these large companies like Sprint Communications that are attempting to keep us from taking advantage of opportunities that come our way. Two years ago, our tribe went into a business arrangement to form Native American Telecom so we could be less dependent on government handouts and work our way out of the terrible financial situation inherited. Now that we have come up with a business opportunity that promises to have great economic impact

---

<sup>1</sup> *Sprint Communications Company, L.P. v. Maule, et al.*, Case No. 10-4110 (D.S.D.), Transcript of Peter Lengkeek, 127-42 (Oct. 14, 2010).



# CROW CREEK SIOUX TRIBE

FORT THOMPSON, SOUTH DAKOTA 57339

on my people, corporate America is attempting to once again squash our dreams.

I have learned that the Federal Communications Commission is thinking about passing a law to prevent us from working with conferencing companies to bring money to our company. We feel our tribe should be able to do business with outside companies like free conferencing companies. Without business relationships outside our land, our telephone company will not survive. Please do not pass any new laws that would do away with free conferencing services. If this would happen it would end our telephone company we have started and end the countless benefits this brings to the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe and its members.

In Peace,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Peter Lengkeek".

Peter Lengkeek

Crow Creek Sioux Tribal Council Member